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News Release

Durham Police Department

For Immediate Release: July 18, 2013

BLET #37 Graduation – July 23, 2013

The Durham Police Department will hold graduation ceremonies for the BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training) Academy #37 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23 at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, 504 West Chapel Hill Street.

The academy included 26 weeks of classes, which will be followed by additional training while on patrol. The recruits have undergone 993 hours of academy training, which is 373 more hours of training than is required by the state. After graduation, the new recruits will each be assigned to a Police Training Officer (PTO) for approximately six months.

The BLET #37 class includes 10 new Durham police officers. The officers, who range in age from 21 to 31 years old, include eight males and two females. Eight have four-year college degrees and two have some college education. One new officer is from Durham and four have relatives who are former or current law enforcement officers.

The new Durham officers are Michael Antonides, Kayla Blevins, Brentley Brown, Christopher Foley, Joshua Mashburn, Laurel Nuyen, Morgan Riddle, Justin Rose, Jeremy Rushton and Edwin Valerio.